

## ABSTRACT

<b>Designation:</b>	Final Environmental Impact Statement EISX-007-17-XMC-1747255459
<b>Title of Proposed Action:</b>	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Joint Military Training
<b>Lead Agency for the EIS:</b>	United States Marine Corps
<b>Cooperating Agencies:</b>	U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Insular Affairs U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service U.S. Environmental Protection Agency National Marine Fisheries Service
<b>Affected Jurisdiction:</b>	Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The United States (U.S.) Marine Corps (USMC) prepared this Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to support land-based training for ongoing and evolving joint expeditionary warfare tactics, specifically, distributed operations on the island of Tinian in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). Distributed operations training relies on the use of small, dispersed land, sea, air, space, and cyber detachments conducting stealthy, coordinated, and independent actions from minimally developed and advanced island positions. The Proposed Action would accommodate U.S. Armed Forces forward-deployed to the Western Pacific and U.S. allies and partners.

To support the proposed training, new training infrastructure would create a physical and virtual training environment to include two live-fire ranges, two surface radar towers, improvements to North Field, the development of Landing Zones, an expeditionary Base Camp at the former U.S. Agency for Global Media site, and biosecurity facilities. A communications system to support training would be established through the reuse of existing communications towers located on Tinian and Saipan, with portable sensors and emitters in the Military Lease Area. To ensure training unit and public safety during training, an on-island Training Area and Range Operations Command (Range Control) would be established. Range Control would schedule training and coordinate with local officials and the public. Two training Alternatives and a No Action Alternative on Tinian are analyzed in this Final EIS. Under the No Action Alternative, existing land-based training at levels analyzed in prior National Environmental Policy Act documents for Tinian would continue (see the 2010 *Mariana Islands Range Complex Final EIS/Overseas EIS* [OEIS], 2015 *Mariana Islands Training and Testing EIS/OEIS*, and associated consultations and authorizations). The nature and purpose of training would remain consistent with previously approved training activities, while incorporating updated tactics, techniques, and procedures utilizing new training infrastructure. Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 would represent varied increases over existing training tempos and include two new live-fire ranges.

Resources analyzed in this Final EIS include public access; land use and recreation; socioeconomics; biological resources; cultural resources; visual resources; transportation; noise; air quality; public health and safety; utilities; topography, geology and soils; groundwater and hydrology; and surface water and wetlands.

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